

SUITE 600  
62 WEST 45TH STREET  
NEW YORK

October 22, 1954

Hon. Allen W. Dulles, Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 East St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

Let us sum up a serious situation quickly.

General William J. Donovan, wartime Director of the OSS and member of the Board of the International Rescue Committee, has just returned from more than two years as Ambassador to Thailand where he was closely associated with American strategy in Southeast Asia.

His report was so urgent that four days later a member of the International Rescue Committee Board departed for Vietnam to set up an emergency program of aid to anti-Communist refugees who are fleeing from Northern Vietnam, particularly key refugee leaders such as industrialists, statesmen, engineers, professors and other professionals.

Immediately thereafter the Board decided that a meeting be held to honor General William J. Donovan for his outstanding service to our country. At this time it will be possible for him to report directly to a critical section of American leadership what are the facts in Southeast Asia and what will be the future if we act now -- without a moment's delay.

A dinner will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on Thursday, November 18th. At this time we are announcing the establishment of a Freedom Fund to help meet this emergency. Admiral Richard E. Byrd will be co-guest of honor with General Donovan.

Each of these men has crowded many careers into his life. They both have received many honors and are laden with position. Neither of them has any interest in such a dinner for its own sake. They have agreed -- urged it solely, in order that the ominous crisis in Southeast Asia, specifically as it affects the free world and our American interests, can

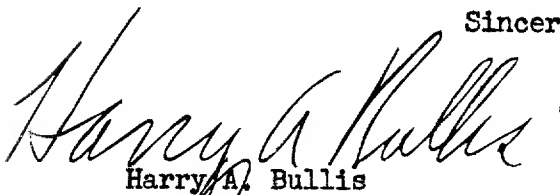
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be brought to the attention of the group of leaders in America who can act with decision and sufficient speed at this fateful moment in history.

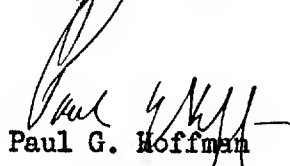
We are asking you to come to hear what we have heard and to decide yourself whether we are not right in feeling that this is a job only this group of Americans can do. In six months it will be too late.

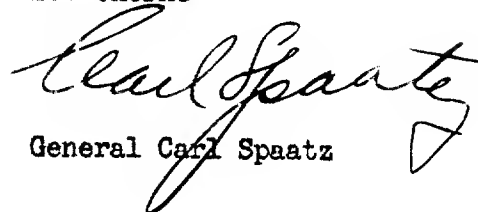
Please let us know on the enclosed card how many places we should reserve for you at the Waldorf on November 18th. We hope that you can join us on this important occasion.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harry A. Bullis

  
Leo Cherne

  
Paul G. Hoffman

  
General Carl Spaatz

DINNER COMMITTEE

P.S. Of course, some individuals, because of their particular circumstances or distance from New York, will find it difficult to attend this Dinner in person. We are nevertheless inviting them to take part in this event and in the projected Freedom Fund. If you find it impossible to be with us in person on November 18th, we would appreciate your participation by sending your contribution, to be announced at the Dinner. We hope that you can do this as soon as possible so that your name may be included in the list of participating individuals and firms which will be printed in the Dinner Program, a copy of which you will, of course, receive.